

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
FLIGHTLINE FIRE STATION
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2748)
Alabama Avenue
Plattsburgh
Clinton County
New York

HAER No. NY-326-M

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE, FLIGHTLINE FIRE STATION (Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2748)

HAER No. NY-326-M

Location: Alabama Avenue, Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

UTM: 18.622360.4945180
Quad: Plattsburgh, NY-VT, 1:24,000 (1966)

Date of Construction: 1956

Architect: Unknown

Present Owner: United States Air Force

Present Use: Vacant/Storage

Significance: During the Cold War, Building No. 2748 housed the flightline fire safety equipment and personnel. As such, this facility and the personnel assigned to it were the first line of response in the event of catastrophic accidents on the flightline.

Project Information: Building No. 2748 at Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB) is being documented in accordance with HAER standards to mitigate for the potential adverse effects of transferring deed of title to the property from federal ownership. The property transfer is a result of the disposal and reuse of Plattsburgh AFB, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1993. The mitigation is a stipulation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) among the U.S. Air Force, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (October 2000).

Michael Pumphrey
Deborah Dobson-Brown
Earth Tech, Inc.
1461 East Cooley Drive
Colton, CA 92324

Summary Description of Flightline Fire Station, (Plattsburgh Air Force Base Building No. 2748)

Layout

Building 2748 contains 17,182 square feet. It is essentially a one-story, reinforced concrete block building, but it has several sections of wood frame construction. It is irregular in plan and massing, with three garage sections used to house fire fighting equipment. These garage sections have been connected via passageways and additions.

The west façade, which fronts the flightline apron, has a large concrete block addition on its left side. This addition has one large vehicle bay and was used to house the base's largest fire truck. The main building is to the right of, and set back from, this addition. This section, or the southwestern portion of the building, has five vehicle bays with overhead garage doors.

On the north façade, to the left of the flightline fence, is a garage section with three vehicle bays with overhead doors. Flanking this garage section are shorter wood frame sections with flat roofs that appear to be additions. The left side addition has a plaque which reads: Fire Crash Station Dedicated to the Memory of Leonard A. Martin, 1st Fire chief, Plattsburgh AFB, 1955-1957, "Work Hard -- Play Hard." The right side of this façade has a small concrete passageway that connects the building to the concrete block addition off the west façade.

Off the rear of the building, and behind the west façade's garage section, is a one-story section that appears to be a later addition. This wood frame section, which was used to house fire fighting personnel, originally had wood siding, but is now covered with asbestos siding.

Many of the original two-over-two, double hung windows in the building's wood frame sections have been replaced with one-over-one, double-hung metal sash windows. The garage section in the southwest corner of the building retains its metal factory sash windows with precast concrete sills.

The building retains some of its fire fighting equipment, including some of the fire trucks. Other than the requisite truck stalls, Building No. 2748 contained space for the department's technical services activities (including fire extinguisher maintenance); a general-purpose/squad room; sleeping quarters; office for administrative, communications, and fire prevention activities; and a kitchen.

Alterations/Additions

Building No. 2748 has undergone several additions and alterations over the course of its existence:

- 1965 A 20'-0" x 31'-10" addition was constructed.
- 1982 A 1,835 square foot concrete block addition was constructed off the west façade. The passageway connecting this addition to the main building was constructed at the same time.
- 1982 Another addition was constructed off the building's southeast façade.

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
FLIGHTLINE FIRE STATION
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2748)
HAER No. NY-326-M
(Page 3)

Function

Building No. 2748 was used as the base from which to expedite firefighting equipment and personnel in the event of a crash.

Significance

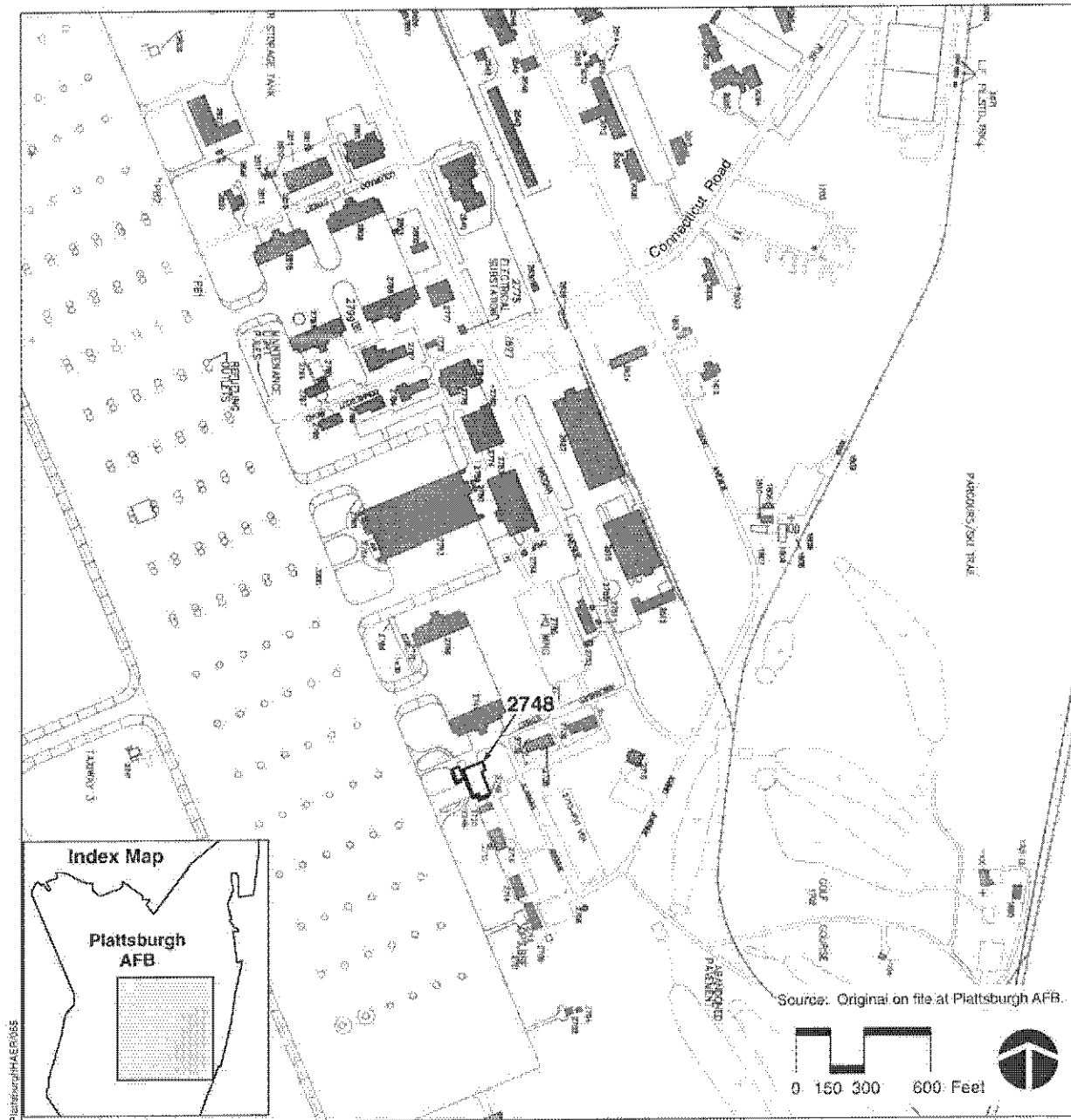
Flight is inherently dangerous; accidents can and do occur. Building No. 2748, therefore, served Plattsburgh AFB in the vital role of responding to, and managing and containing fire resulting from flight accidents.

Sources

United States Air Force
1962 Plattsburgh AFB Real Property Accountable Record, 1961-1989.

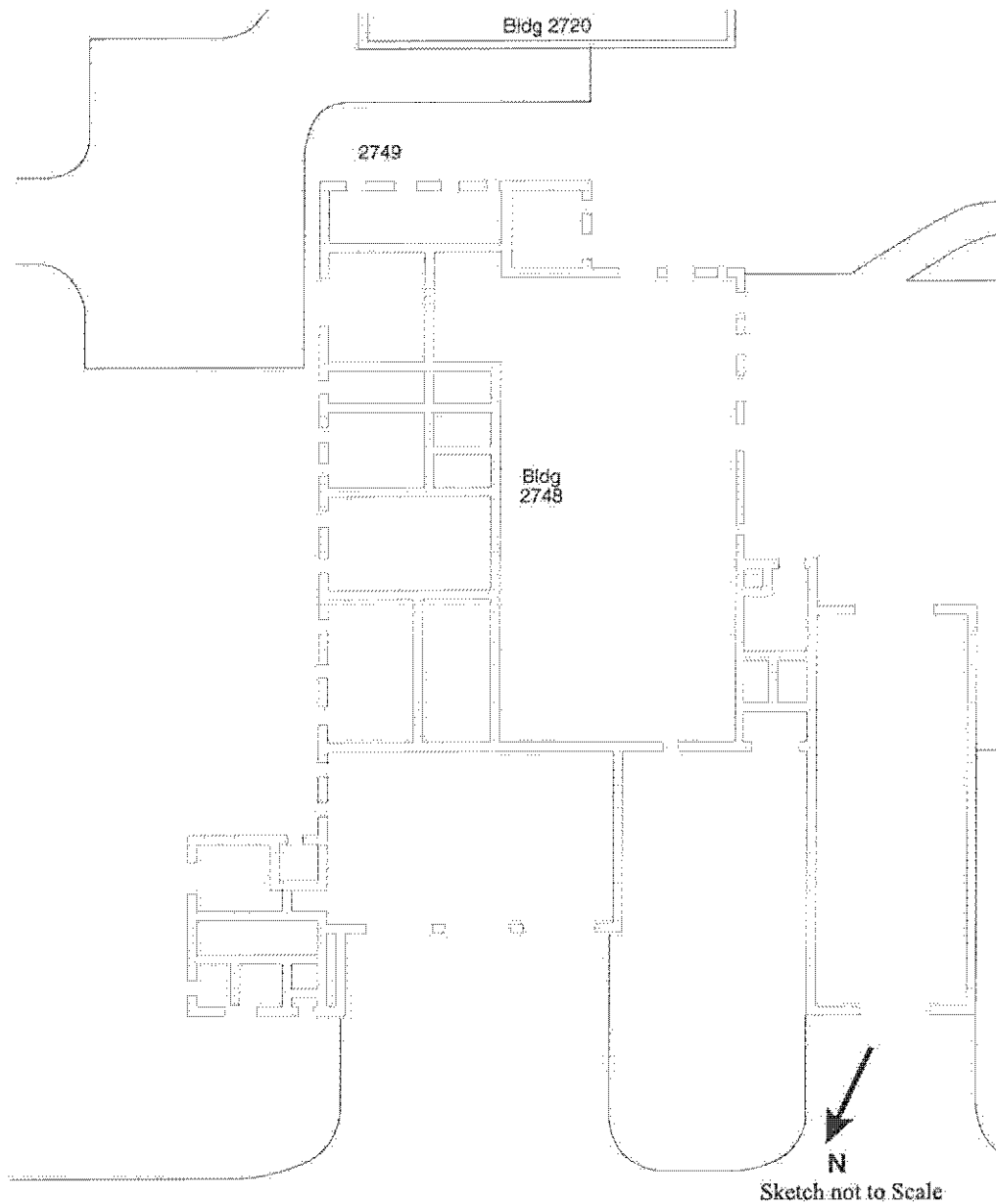
U.S. Department of the Air Force, Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence
1998 *Draft Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation Plattsburgh Air Force Base New York*.
Volumes I and II, June.

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
FLIGHTLINE FIRE STATION
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2748)
HAER No. NY-326-M
(Page 4)



Location Map for Flightline Fire Station, Building No. 2748
Copyright Free

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
FLIGHTLINE FIRE STATION
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2748)
HAER No. NY-326-M
(Page 5)



SKETCH PLAN - FLIGHTLINE FIRE STATION BUILDING
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2748)
(Source: Plattsburgh AFB CAD File, Prepared by the United States Air Force, ca 2000)
Copyright Free